

REMARKS

Reconsideration of the application is respectfully requested for the following reasons:

1. Amendments to Claims

Claim 1 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 3, and claim 10 has been amended to include the limitations of claim 12.

2. Rejection of Claims 1-4, 7-13, and 15-18 Under 35 USC §102(e) in view of U.S. Patent Publication No. 2005/0075172 (Coleman)

This rejection is respectfully traversed on the grounds that the Coleman publication neither discloses nor suggests a cover for an electronic device, as now recited in claims 1 and 10, that:

- extends around a periphery of the electronic device housing (the “glove” 200 of Coleman only extends around gripping portions 24,25 of the device),

and that includes both:

- a holding portion arranged to be gripped by a user, and
- a free-opening protection portion arranged to cover and thereby protect a button, switch or connecting port (the buttons and connection ports of the game controller of Coleman are completely exposed).

Coleman’s cover 23 is only located at *selected locations* around the gripping members 24 and 25 of the game controller. In contrast, the claimed cover *extends complete around* (“around a periphery of”) the electronic device. This is **not merely a matter of obviousness design choice** since (a) the claimed cover can more easily be secured to the device without the need for elastic loops 250, or Velcro, adhesive, snaps, or zippers, all as disclosed in paragraph 0044 of the Coleman publication, and since (b) the claimed cover extends over a greater portion of the electronic device and therefore not only provides a padded grip, as in Coleman, but also protection from environmental hazards such as dust.

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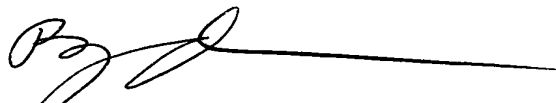
The fact that Coleman's cover does not include "*a sleeve portion that extends around a periphery of the electronic device housing,*" as claimed, is clearly apparent in Fig. 1 of the Coleman publication, which shows no connection between the outer surfaces of "glove" 200. This is the reason that straps, Velcro, snaps, buttons, or the like are needed to hold the individual gloves on the gripping sections of the controller.

Not only does Coleman fail to disclose or suggest the claimed extension of the sleeve portion around a periphery of the electronic device housing (while leaving upper and lower portions exposed, but the Coleman patent also clearly fails to disclose or suggest the protection portion originally recited in claim 3, and now recited in claim 1. The protection portion is arranged to protect at least one of a button, a switch, and a connecting port of the electronic device. None of the buttons, switches, or ports of the game controller of Coleman is covered by the "glove" 200. Instead, Coleman specifically discloses that a cover is fitted onto the controller housing, "*aligning actuator openings in the cover to actuator switches*" before being secured by straps, Velcro, or the like, as disclosed in paragraph 0044. Instead of providing protection portions, Coleman aligns openings of the cover with the switches, which is exactly contrary to this aspect of the claimed invention.

Because the Coleman publication does not disclose all elements recited in amended claims 1, 2, 4-11, and 13-18, withdrawal of the rejection under 35 USC §102(e) is respectfully requested.

Having thus overcome the sole rejection made in the Official Action, expedited passage of the application to issue is requested.

Respectfully submitted,
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